

Rev. J.A. Stephan

Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

Sun Building, N^o 1315 F Street

Washington, D.C., May 18th, 1888

Dear Miss K.M. Drexel,

Mr. Burns has sent me two sets of the plans for St. Joseph's, which I have forwarded to the contractor. I examined all the records in relation to Rev. Bandini S. J. claims; he stated to you that he did not get any pay since 6 months.

The official record shows the following:

1. The contract was dated on the 1st day of Sept. 1887.
2. On the 19th of Dec. 1887, the Bureau addressed a letter with the prepared vouchers to Rev. Bandini for the quarter ending Sept. 30, asked him to sign the same, get them also certified by the agent and return them to this Bureau. Up to this day the vouchers have not been received by this office nor by the Indian office.
3. The delay in payment for the voucher for quarter ending Dec. 31st is due to the facts that the reports were not received at the Indian office in due time.

Rev. Perrig's voucher for the last quarter, ending March 31st was not received or sent at all and we had to write for them, as I already stated to you, and after such inexcusable neglects, they write to you complaints, in order to excite your sympathy, to help them with money; intimating that they have received no money on account of the carelessness of the Cath. Ind. Bureau. Such things are harder on my mind, than a Spanish fly blister applied to my head.

While writing this the letter carrier hands me your welcome letter and I will read it before saying anything else. After having read your letter, I answered Mr. Paul where to send the shoes to. Now to your letter:

1. Many thanks for the sister's contract. It will be kept safe in our office.
2. My address is "Sun Building" for this reason, Last evening an Indian by the name of Harkins, of the Chickasaw nation, Ind. Territory, an attorney by profession, came to me at 8 P.M. and asked me to go to his people and establish a Catholic school, he would help me all he could, although he is a Protestant. Also a delegation of Quapaw Indians, who are here, visited me 8 ½ P.M. and asked me to establish a school in their reservation. After they left my house, the land

lady notified me that she, nor anybody else in the house wanted Indians to call on me, and therefore I gave up my lodging at once and hunt now for quarters. I think best would be for me to buy a small house on the installment plan and pay so much annually as the house rent would come to and also the interests on the balance, this will free me from everlasting moving, and the Indians can see me after office hours without fear to get insulted. In this respect I have already suffered a great deal.

The Prefect Apostolic did not tell me anything about the trouble at St. Michel's mission. I will inquire at once into it and rectify matters. Mr. Dillon will not be expelled by the nation, if he gives us the title to the land, but I think he is sorry that he has sold the 23 springs and beautiful land and therefore wants to crawl out of his bargain. I have not received notice of deposit from the Bank yet. I will attend to Rev. Croft as you directed and most cheerfully to the prayers for dear Mr. Lankenaw. I have to sing high mass in St. Patrick's next Sunday and will make a sincere memento for your Uncles & George.....not forgetting the trio at St. Michel's. Please stick to your catechism scheme! I am with sincere blessings and greetings.

Yours in Xto,

J.A. Stephan